GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6232
ANSWERED ON:05.05.2000
CREATION OF FREE TRADE ZONES
SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria adopted for creation of Free Trade Zones in the country;

(b) the cities, towns or areas which have demanded for creation of such Free Trade Zones there; and

(c) the latest proposals with the Government for creation of Free Trade Zones in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

(SHRI MURASOLI MARAN)

(a) As per EXIM Policy, `Free Trade Zones` (FTZs) and `Export Processing Zones (EPZs) are synonymous terms. The criteria kept in view while locating an Export Processing Zone include proximity to sea/airport, availability of basic infrastructural facilities like roads, power and water supply, banking, communication facilities and access to social infrastructure such as housing, health and educational facilities.

(b) Some specific locations for setting up of Free Trade Zones recently received include Kakkinada (Andhra Pradesh) and Gummidipoondi (Tamil Nadu).

(c) There is no proposal to set up any new EPZ/FTZ under Government of India. However, Export Processing Zones can be established by State Governments or in joint/private sector.